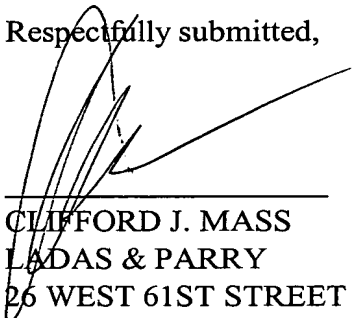


REMARKS

By the above amendatory action, Applicants have rewritten claim 4 in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. Claims 4 and 5 are now respectfully considered to be in allowable form in accordance with the comments of the Examiner in the Official Action of January 29, 2004 at paragraph 9. All other claims are canceled without prejudice.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,



CLIFFORD J. MASS
LADAS & PARRY
26 WEST 61ST STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023
REG. NO.30,086(212)708-1890